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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SMARTRIX TECHNOLOGIES INC. [CA/CA]; 16751 TransCanada Road, Kirkland, Quebec H9H 4J4 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ZERBE, Horst, G. [CA/CA]; 714 Main Road, Hudson, Quebec J0P 1H0 (CA). SZABO, Pompilia [CA/CA]; 461 Boyd Avenue, Greenfield Park, Quebec J4V 1S4 (CA).

(74) Agents: DUBUC, J. et al.; Goudreau Gage Dubuc, Stock Exchange Tower, 800 Place Victoria, Suite 3400, P.O. Box 242, Montreal, Quebec H4Z 1E9 (CA).

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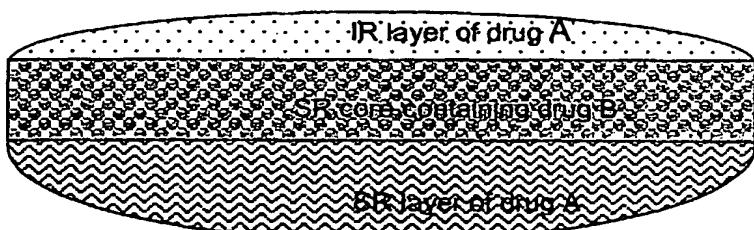
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ORAL DOSAGE FORMULATION



(57) Abstract: A multi-layer oral dosage form, preferably a tablet, comprising a matrix core comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a first drug (NSAID), wherein the matrix core allows sustained release of the first drug; a first layer, which is in contact with the matrix core, comprising a first portion of a pharmaceutically effective amount of a second drug (H₂-blocker antagonist), wherein the first layer allows sustained release of the second drug; and a second layer, which is in contact with said matrix core, comprising a second portion of the second drug, wherein the second layer allows immediate release of the second drug. Methods for preparing the multi-layer dosage form are also disclosed.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61K9/24 A61K45/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|----------|--|-----------------------|
| X | WO 02/098352 A (POZEN INC) 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12) page 3, line 30 - page 6, line 13 examples claims page 11, line 16 - line 21 ----- | 1-64 |
| A | WO 02/066002 A (GLAXO WELLCOME SA ; IBANEZ MATILDE FERNANDEZ (ES) ; SANZ EMILIO GARRIZ) 29 August 2002 (2002-08-29) page 2, line 1 - line 20 examples claims ----- | 1-64 |
| A | US 4 946 685 A (EDGREN DAVID E ET AL) 7 August 1990 (1990-08-07) claims 5,6; figure 3; examples 28,30 ----- | 1-64 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 May 2004

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Epskamp, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/000073

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 28 and 29 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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